

MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
January 6, 2021, 5:30 p.m.

Vice President Green called to order the January 6, 2021 regular meeting of the Orange County Water District Board of Directors at 5:30 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, the District Secretary called the roll and reported a quorum as follows. Due to the Governor's Executive Order N-25-20, members of the Board participated via Zoom webinar from remote locations. Public access was also provided via Zoom webinar.

Directors

Denis Bilodeau
Jordan Brandman
Cathy Green
Nelida Mendoza
Dina Nguyen (absent)
Kelly Rowe
Stephen Sheldon
Tri Ta
Roger Yoh (absent)
Ahmad Zahra

Staff

Michael R. Markus, General Manager
Jeremy Jungreis, General Counsel
Janice Durant, District Secretary

1. Employee Service Awards

The Board presented service awards to District employees reaching their 20, 30, and 40 years of service milestones.

VISITOR PARTICIPATION

Mr. Mike Elliott requested a response to his question at the December 2 Board meeting about the value to the OCWD ratepayers of OCWD's \$5,000 contribution to the CalDesal organization.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar was approved upon motion by Director Green, seconded by Director Rowe and carried [8-0] as follows, with the following abstention by Director Brandman:
Item No. 3, *Cash Disbursements* relating to Orange County Conservation Corps, due to a current business relationship.

Ayes: Bilodeau, Brandman, Green, Mendoza, Rowe, Sheldon, Ta, Zahra

Abstain: Brandman – partial abstention on Item No. 3

Absent: Nguyen, Yoh

2. Public Hearing to Consider Increasing Directors' Compensation

President Sheldon opened the Public Hearing to consider adoption of an Ordinance increasing the Directors' compensation from \$300 to \$315 per day of service, up to a maximum of ten days per month, commencing 60 days from the adoption of the Ordinance. Director Bilodeau suggested

that the hearing be continued to the next Board meeting on January 20 to allow the full Board to be present for the Hearing. The Hearing was then continued as follows:

MOTION NO. 21-1
CONTINUING PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER INCREASE
IN DIRECTORS' COMPENSATION

Upon motion by Director Bilodeau, seconded by Director Rowe and carried (7-0), the Public Hearing to consider increasing Directors' compensation is hereby continued to January 20, 2021.

Ayes: Bilodeau, Green, Mendoza, Rowe, Sheldon, Ta, Zahra

Absent: Brandman, Nguyen, Yoh

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar was approved upon motion by Director Green, seconded by Director Rowe and carried [8-0] as follows, with Director Brandman abstaining on a portion of Item No. 1, Cash Disbursements relating to Orange County Conservation Corps due to a current business relationship.

Ayes: Bilodeau, Brandman, Green, Mendoza, Rowe, Sheldon, Ta, Zahra

Abstain: Brandman (partial abstention on Item No. 1)

Absent: Nguyen, Yoh

3. Approval of Cash Disbursements

MOTION NO. 21-2
APPROVING CASH DISBURSEMENTS

Payment of bills for the period of December 10, 2020 through December 30, 2020 in the total amount of \$22,443,538.02 is ratified and approved.

4. City of Santa Ana Appointment of Nelida Mendoza to the OCWD Board

MOTION NO. 21-3
DECLARING NELIDA MENDOZA AS DULY APPOINTED DIRECTOR
OF DIVISION 8 (SANTA ANA)

The City of Santa Ana certificate of appointment of Nelida Mendoza is hereby received and filed, and Ms. Mendoza is declared duly appointed as Division 8 (City of Santa Ana) Director for a term expiring December 2, 2022.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

5. PFAS Treatment Study Update

Director of Research Megan Plumlee provided a project status update on the ongoing PFAS treatment studies by Jacobs, the goal of which is to assess treatment technologies for removing PFAS from drinking water using granulated activated carbon, ion resin exchange (IX), and/or

novel adsorbents. She stated the cost analyses portion of the study has been delayed but noted a unit cost will be established. Dr. Plumlee stated the next steps include providing the PFAS Pilot report to the Department of Drinking Water in February for their use in permitting Producer IX systems; Jacobs will provide PFAS Treatment Study Report draft on February 15; and the final on March 25; OCWD will continue with the pilot long enough to confirm breakthrough curves for long-lasting products (Phase 1 PFAS pilot); and will prepare for a second phase of piloting to test newly available media alternatives.

6. Santa Ana Watershed Project Authorities Activities

Director Rowe advised that SAWPA is conducting interviews for the General Manager position.

7. Verbal Reports

President Sheldon requested that Board members contact him regarding which Committee they wish to serve on. Director Bilodeau advised that he would be attending a Zoom meeting tomorrow with the neighbors who live adjacent to the Serrano Water District where the PFAS treatment Project will be built.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

The Board recessed to Closed Session at 5:55 p.m. as follows:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION –
[Government Code Section 54956.9(a)] – Two cases:

- 1) OCWD v. Sabic Innovative plastics, LLC, et al Superior Court Case No. 03CC00078246
- 2) *Irvine Ranch Water District v. OCWD, et al.* – Superior Court Case No. 30-2016-00858584-CU-WM-CJC

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 6:45 p.m. whereupon General Counsel Jungreis advised that the Board took the following action in Closed Session by a vote of 8-0.

CS-R21-1-1
APPROVING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH BELL INDUSTRIES, INC. IN THE
CASE OF OCWD v. SABIC INNOVATIVE PLASTICS, LLC, ET AL,
(SOUTH BASIN LITIGATION)

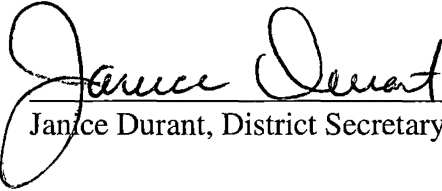
RESOLVED, that, in the case of *OCWD v. Sabic Innovative Plastics*, a final settlement is approved with Bell Industries, Inc. in the amount of \$2 million in exchange for a release as identified in such Settlement Agreement.

Ayes: Bilodeau, Brandman, Green, Mendoza, Rowe, Sheldon, Ta, Zahra

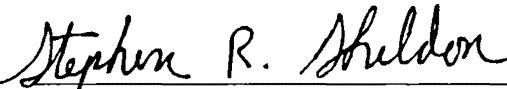
Absent: Nguyen, Yoh

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.



Janice Durant, District Secretary



Stephen R. Sheldon, President